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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/615,524 | 07/03/2003 | Cem Basceri | MICRON.098CDV2 | 8174 |
| 20995 | 7590 | 04/19/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP 2040 MAIN STREET FOURTEENTH FLOOR IRVINE, CA 92614 | | | BREWSTER, WILLIAM M | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2823 | |

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/615,524 | BASCERI ET AL. |
| | Examiner William M. Brewster | Art Unit 2823 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 February 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 102703, 021704.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-5, 7-12, 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Azuma et al., WO Publication No. 95/25340.

Azuma teaches a method for forming a substantially haze-free BST film, comprising:

limitations from claims 5 and 12: in fig. 1, further comprising depositing an electrode material 20 before depositing said BST film, p. 5, lines 5-8; supplying BST sources into a chamber, p. 5, lines 10-30; heating the chamber to a temperature above about 600° C;

limitations from claims 1, 3, 4: wherein the chamber and substrate is heated to a temperature between about 500° C and 680° C, p. 6, lines 5-20;

limitations from claim 12: in fig. 1, further comprising depositing a second electrode 24 after depositing said BST film, p. 6, lines 20-22.

Although Azuma suggests a thickness for the haze-free BST film thicker than the 150 to 300 Å, fig. 3, steps 47-49 describe a process wherein the practitioner may set her optimum chosen thickness and repeat the deposition process until said chosen thickness may be achieved, p. 6, lines 9-22.

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Azuma does not specify a deposition rate, but rather leaves the practitioner in control of fig. 3 to optimize the conditions and the deposition rates, p. 7, line 24 - p. 8, line 5.

Azuma suggests the Barium and Strontium ratio, p. 4, lines 5-10, but does not specify the titanium atomic percentage. This is left to the practitioner, p. 7, line 24 - p. 8, line 5.

"Normally, it is to be expected that a change in temperature, or in concentration, or in both, would be an unpatentable modification. Under some circumstances, however, changes such as these may impart patentability to a process if the particular ranges claimed produce a new and unexpected result which is different in kind and not merely degree from the results of the prior art . . . such ranges are termed 'critical ranges' and the applicant has the burden of proving such criticality . . . More particularly, where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, it is not inventive to discover the optimum or workable ranges by routine experimentation."

In re Aller 105 USPQ 233, 255 (CCPA 1955). See also In re Waite 77 USPQ 586 (CCPA 1948); In re Scherl 70 USPQ 204 (CCPA 1946); In re Irmscher 66 USPQ 314 (CCPA 1945); In re Norman 66 USPQ 308 (CCPA 1945); In re Swenson 56 USPQ 372 (CCPA 1942); In re Sola 25 USPQ 433 (CCPA 1935); In re Dreyfus 24 USPQ 52 (CCPA 1934).

Note that the specification contains no disclosure of either the critical nature of the claimed dimensions of any unexpected results arising there from. Where patentability is aid to be based upon particular chosen dimensions or upon another variable recited in a claim, the Applicant must show that the chosen dimensions are critical. In re Woodruff, 919 F.2d 1575, 1578, 16 USPQ2d 1934, 1936 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

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Claims 6 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Azuma as applied to claims 1-5, 7-12, 14-15 above, and further in view of Joo, "Fabrication and Characterization of MOCVD (Ba, Sr)TiO₃ Thin Films for High Density Capacitors", Proceeding of 1997 5th International Conference an VLSI and CAD", The Secretariat of ICVC '97, 1997.

Azuma does not specify the temperature of deposition of the haze-free BST film, but Joo does. Joo teaches in the abstract depositing a haze-free film at 560° C. Joo gives motivation in the abstract. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to recognize that combining Joo's process with Azuma's invention would have been beneficial because it displays the best electrical properties.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William M. Brewster whose telephone number is 571-272-1854. The examiner can normally be reached on Full Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Olik Chaudhuri can be reached on 571-272-1855. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

William M. Brewster

14 April 2004

WB